



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION
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July 14, 2005

Dear Foster Parents:

We are pleased to inform you that The Washington State Legislature has approved a 1% increase in foster care payments. The rate increase is effective as of July 1, 2005. We have provided you with the new payment rates for Foster Care Basic and Child Assessed Levels. To assist you to compare new to old we also included the previous rates in the charts below:

FOSTER CARE BASIC RATE INCREASE

CHILD'S AGE	PREVIOUS RATE	JULY 1, 2005
0 – 5 years	\$366.31	\$369.98
6 – 11 years	\$441.81	\$446.23
12 years and older	\$514.95	\$520.10

Foster Care rate includes reimbursement for room and board, clothing allowance and personal incidentals. Those three areas are broken out below:

ROOM AND BOARD		
CHILD'S AGE	PREVIOUS RATE	JULY 1, 2005
0 – 5 years	\$274.78	\$277.53
6 – 11 years	\$345.83	\$349.29
12 years & older	\$407.93	\$412.01
CLOTHING ALLOWANCE		
CHILD'S AGE	PREVIOUS RATE	JULY 1, 2005
0 – 11 years	\$38.63	\$39.02
12 year & older	\$45.64	\$46.10
PERSONAL INCIDENTALS ALLOWANCE		
CHILD'S AGE	PREVIOUS RATE	JULY 1, 2001
0 – 5 years	\$52.90	\$53.43
6 – 11 years	\$57.35	\$57.92
12 years & older	\$61.38	\$61.99

FOSTER CARE CHILD ASSESSED LEVELS

When a child has special needs as assessed by the Foster Care Rate Assessment process, the level payment is combined with the basic rate for the total foster care payment. (The Foster Care Rate Assessment is the result of discussion between Social Worker and the Foster Parent about the Child's needs)				
Child's Age	Level I	Level II (\$176.16)	Level III (\$518.33)	Level IV (\$794.36)
0 – 5 years	\$369.98	\$546.14	\$888.31	\$1,164.34
6 – 11 years	\$446.23	\$622.39	\$964.56	\$1,240.59
12 years & older	\$520.10	\$696.26	\$1038.43	\$1,314.46

Please note that this is information only and you do not need to take any action. The Social Service Payment System (SSPS) will automatically pay the increased amount, effective July 1, 2005. ***If your rate did not change and you believe it should have, please contact the social worker authorizing your payment.***

Thank you for your continued commitment to families and children in Washington State. If there is any other assistance we can provide please contact Deborah Reed at (360) 902-7953 or e-mail her at dere300@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Ross Dawson, Director
Division of Program and Practice Improvement
Children's Administration

Enclosure